United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Entomology and Pathology | 2500 S. Pine Knoll Dr. Flagstaff, AZ 86001 (520) 556-2130

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Subject: 1997 Insect and Disease Aerial Detection Survey

To: Forest Supervisor
Prescott National Forest
344 S Cortez
Prescott, Az. 86303

The annual insect and disease aerial detection survey was conducted over the Prescott National Forest September 8-9, 1997 by R3 Entomology and Pathology observers. Enclosed are maps depicting the forest pest conditions. Please forward one copy of the map and this letter to the appropriate Ranger Districts. Following is a summary of the results of this survey.

Approximately 1715 acres of ponderosa pine mortality was detected this year. Tree mortality occurred in pockets ranging in size from several thousand trees to smaller pockets of one to ten trees. We suspect Ips beetles are responsible in conjunction with the prevalent drought stressed trees. A large portion of this mortality is situated in the Prescott Basin area, a line that stretches from Walker west to Deering Park Estates. Another significant area of mortality is in the Crown King area and Mingus Mountain.

Areas of fire related mortality were noted west of Horse Thief Lookout. The residual trees remaining in these areas are potential sites for future bark beetle attacks. These sites will be monitored in the 98 aerial surveys for signs of outbreak.

Electronic map files and data for this survey will be forwarded to Deborah White for incorporation with GIS.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, or insects and disease in your area, contact us at (520) 556-2071 and 556-2072. Thank you.

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